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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Eric FREEMAN, et al.

Serial No. : 09/398,611

Group Art Unit: 2771

Date Filed : September 17, 1999

Examiner:

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Ivan S. Kavrukov Oct 25, 2001

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified patent application.

Please cancel all pending claims and add new claims ~~28-40~~ set forth in Exhibit A.